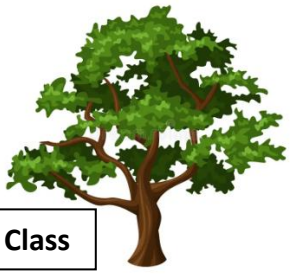


Ash Class

The Children's News



Oak Class

Week Ending 18th September 2026

Welcome to the Ash and Oak Class Newsletter. We aim to send one out every 2 weeks giving you details of what we have been learning and what is coming up. In each newsletter there will be some ideas of things you can try at home to support your child with their learning. These are in the green font.

It has been fantastic to see how quickly the children have settled into the Ash and Oak class. They are mostly coming in confidently and are getting the hang of all our routines. It has been so lovely to see the children enjoying exploring the setting and engrossing themselves in play. They are already enjoying short adult-led learning sessions. This week, we have started finger gym sessions and a short daily maths session. Next week, we will add in phonics too.

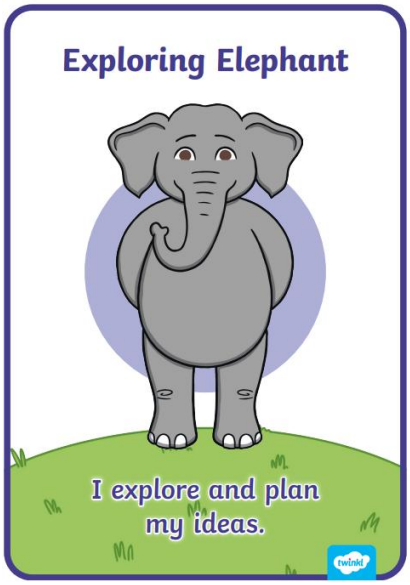
There will inevitably be mornings where your child isn't quite so keen to come in. This is very normal, especially as the term progresses and the novelty wears off. Tears at the gate can be very upsetting for everyone but please be assured that our lovely nurturing team will take very good care of them. We find that swift goodbyes help with this and that children are usually settled and happy very quickly. We will let you know if this is not the case.

We have already shared some of the children's Chatterboxes either in small groups or, in some cases, with the whole class! It is always so lovely to see all the pictures and special objects and hear the children talk about the special people in their lives. We encourage the children to add extra detail in to their talk, telling us interesting things about their families and the things they enjoy doing. Communication and language is a very important part of the Early Years curriculum and we are always encouraging the children to share their thoughts, ideas and feelings about things using detailed sentences. Perhaps you could encourage your child to go in to more detail when they are chatting to you about their day in Reception. **If you haven't had the chance to return the Chatterbox, don't worry, send it in when you can and we will share it together.**









The children have really enjoyed exploring each different area of the inside and outside area, trying their hand at a variety of different activities. We are really encouraging them to be 'Exploring Elephants' and try out new activities or to develop a new skill when doing a familiar activity.

Has your child talked about being an Exploring Elephant? Have they tried a new activity recently? Please do share this with us on Tapestry.

Forest School dates

Monday 21st Sept – Oak
Mon 28th Sept – Ash
Mon 5th Oct – Oak
Mon 12th Oct – Ash
Mon 19th – Oak

Hopefully, you have seen the letter we sent out on Friday about Healthy Eating in the Early Years. Just a few reminders;

- Please only send your child with one or two small, healthy snacks for morning snack time. Please remember that we are a NUT FREE school. Please don't send anything containing nuts into school as we have members of our school with severe allergies. This includes Nutella and products containing chocolate hazelnut spread. Thank you so much for your support with this.
- In Reception, children will be allowed to eat items provided by the Infant Fruit and Veg Scheme whole but will be sitting down calmly & quietly, reminded to chew carefully and will be supervised by a member of staff with a paediatric first aid certificate. We ask that, if you send fruit from home for snack time, that you send it in already prepared and chopped up if required. Whole cherry tomatoes, grapes etc, should be sliced into quarters lengthways and harder fruits and veg can be cut into batons.
- We will encourage children to drink water throughout the day and will refill water bottles when needed.
- We love celebrating birthdays with the children! There is **no expectation for children to bring anything into school for their birthday**. We ask that families do not send food into school for birthday celebrations. This helps us to manage allergies safely and supports our approach to healthy eating.
- Please do speak to one of us if you have any queries and thank you for your support.

Phonics

Next week, we will start our daily ELS synthetic phonics sessions. We will introduce the children to 4 new sounds over the course of each week. We will look at what the sound looks like (the grapheme) and what it sounds like (the phoneme). We will start to use the sounds to build and read words (e.g; t-a-p = tap). We will also begin to introduce words that can't be sounded out - we call these 'Harder to Read and Spell words' (e;g was, the, be etc). These sessions are short, pacey and very engaging.
Next week we will learn the sounds; **s, a, t, p**. **See if you can spot these sounds in books/ the environment when out and about. Encourage your child to tell you what sounds it makes.**

Maths This week we have been thinking about our daily routines and what order we do things in. We have introduced the children to the daily visual timetable which helps them to know what we are doing and when. We encourage the children to take an active role in putting the timetable together and helping us to follow it. Many children enjoy the routine and security that a timetable brings.

Tapestry

Thank you to those parents that have already uploaded observations of their child onto Tapestry. We love seeing your child's achievements. We will be giving you ideas in every newsletter for what you could focus your observations on at home - these are in the green text at the end of each section in the newsletter. However, we are happy to have observations of anything new or exciting your child has done.

Homework/ Show & Tell;

Please practise reading (or share a book together) **every day** and practice recognising the harder to read and spell words (these will be shared).

Additionally; we will share a topic based and a maths based task each half term to complete at home. Usually, these should be submitted on Tapestry so that the children can share them (this is not the case for the Chatterbox activity). Sometimes they will share it with an adult and sometimes they will share it with the class as show and tell.

All About Me Topic Task due ASAP – Chatterbox. Please collect some items and pictures that are special to your child. Put them in to a box to send in so that your child can tell us all about their special objects.

Important Reminders:

- All clothes and bags should be clearly named to ensure that they are returned to the correct person easily.
- We do spend a lot of time outdoors, even if it's cold and wet, so please do make sure your child has a warm coat and clothes appropriate for the weather.
- Please can we ask that children's own cuddlies and toys don't come in to school? It can cause a lot of distress when they are misplaced or picked up by other children. Thank you